

THE MEMPHIS APPEAL.

ESTABLISHED 1840.

MEMPHIS, TENN., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1886.

VOL. XLVI--NO. 203

CHARLESTON IN RUINS.

THE CITY PARTLY DESTROYED BY THE EARTHQUAKE.

Fifty to One Hundred Lives Lost and Thousands of People Rendered Homeless.

THE TOTAL LOSS ESTIMATED AT \$5,000,000 TO \$10,000,000.

Almost Every House in the City Damaged Beyond Repair--Scenes During One

OF THE GREATEST DISASTERS OF THE AGE.

All Railroads Destroyed, and the City Practically Isolated From the Outside World.

CHARLESTON, S. C., September 1, 11 a.m.—An earthquake, such as has never before been known in the history of this city, swept over Charleston last night shortly after 10 o'clock, causing more loss and injury to property and far more loss of life than the cyclone of a year before. The city is wrecked, the streets are encumbered with masses of fallen bricks and tangled telegraph and telephone wires, and no one can early hour it was almost impossible to pass from one part of the city to another. The first shock was by far the most severe. Most of the people with their families passed the night in the streets, which even this morning are crowded with people afraid to re-enter their houses. More than sixty persons were killed and wounded, and many others injured. Among the whites killed and fatally injured are M. J. Lynch, Dr. R. Alexander Hammond and Ainslie Robinson. Fires broke out in different parts of the city immediately after the earthquake, and some are still burning, but no danger of spreading. There is no way of leaving the city at present.

Another Account.

CHARLESTON, S. C., September 1.—There was a terrible earthquake last night at 9:50 o'clock. The principal business portion of the city was destroyed, and hundreds of persons were rendered homeless. Men were frantic, women were beseeching mercy from the Almighty, and children were in tears. The main station house, the City Hall, the Union Hall, and many other well known public buildings, including St. Michael's church, were irreparably damaged. Many people were seriously, if not fatally, injured. Broad street presented a spectacle of the utmost horror. Even women, armed with hatchets, fought valiantly to rescue the imprisoned unfortunates. Meeting street, from Bond to Hazel, is a wreck, and is lined with unfortunates. To add to the horror of the scene, many fires broke out, and were ineffectually fought by the Fire Department. The night was hideous with the groans of the dying, the screams of the wounded, and the prayers of the unfortunates. It is impossible to estimate the losses of persons or property at present. Up to 10 o'clock a.m. today there had been ten distinct shocks.

Still Another Wave.

CHARLESTON, S. C., September 1.—At 8:25 o'clock a.m. precisely this morning another wave swept over the city, coming, as the other did, from the southeast, and going in a north-westerly direction. By that time the people who had been out on the public parks and open places all night had ventured into their houses to get clothing and something to eat. The approach of the quake was heralded by the usual rumbling sound resembling distant thunder. Then it gradually approached the earth, quivered and heaved, and in three seconds it had passed, the sound dying out in the distance. This is the only wave felt since 2:30 o'clock this morning. It was not destructive, all the destruction having been done at 9:55 o'clock last night. The city is a complete wreck. St. Michael's Church and St. Philip's Church, two of the most historic churches in the city, are in ruins, as is also the Union Hall. The Police Station and many other public buildings, and fully two-thirds of the residences in the city, are uninhabitable—wrecked either totally or partially.

It is impossible at this time to give a correct estimate of the casualties. It is expected that between fifty and a hundred persons have been killed and several hundred wounded. At the time of the first shock fires broke out in five different parts of the city. About twenty houses were destroyed by fire. Scarcely a hundred houses in the city are occupied at this time. The people are all encamped in the open places. All the stores are closed and scarcity of provisions is feared, not from want of provisions, but because no one can get to reach the stores to sell them.

The city is wrapped in gloom and business suspended. People generally remain in the streets, in tents, and under improvised shelters and will camp out tonight, fearing another shock. The gas works are injured, and probably the city will be without light tonight. St. Michael's Church is shattered and the steeple will come down, likewise the steeple of St. Philip's. The steeple of the Unitarian Church has fallen. The portions of the Union Hall and the main station house are demolished. There is much

injury to missions on the East and South Battery. The portion of the Union Hall is down.

Barely a house in the city escaped injury, and many are so shaken and cracked that a hard blow would bring them to the ground. The shock was severe at Sumnerville and M. Pleasant and Sullivan's Island, but no loss of life is reported there. Fires in the earth are noticed, from which a fine sand, apparently from a great depth, exudes. A sulphurous smell is very noticeable. Three or four fires started in as many sections with the first shock and the city was illuminated with flames, thus leading all to believe what was left by the earthquake would be devoured by fire. However, the fire department was so well divided and handled that the fires were under control by daylight. From fifteen to thirty residences and stores were consumed. The loss by fire and earthquake cannot be accurately estimated but can be placed safely at \$5,000,000. As far as could be ascertained during the night fifteen or twenty were killed and a much greater number wounded in all sorts of ways. The loss of human life will be large and it will take days to get at the accurate number. Shocks equally as severe were felt at a distance of thirty-five miles, and have done incalculable damage to railroad and telegraph property. Charleston is now entirely isolated from the outside world.

DEPLORABLE STATE OF AFFAIRS.

Two slight shocks of earthquake have been felt here since the first at 8:25 this morning and one at about 1:30 p.m., neither doing any further destruction. Not even during Gen. Gilmore's bombardment of the city has there ever been such a deplorable state of affairs here. The city is literally in ruins, and the people are living in the open squares and public parks. There is a great rush to the railroad depots to get away, but owing to the earthquake no trains have been able to be dispatched from the city. Telegraphic communication is also cut off, save one wire of the Southern Telegraph Company, which is crowded with anxious private messages. It is impossible to depict the ruin and desolation that prevail here. Not a single place of business in the city is open, save one drug store, which is busy preparing prescriptions for the wounded. It is impossible to give any correct estimate of the killed and wounded, as bodies are constantly being discovered from the debris of wrecked houses. One undertaker who was interviewed, stated that he had furnished eight coffins up to noon today. Many of the dead are lying unburied, those being of the poorer classes of colored people who await burial by the county. There are not a half dozen tents in the city and the women and children are experiencing great privations in consequence.

AS NIGHT APPROACHES.

Most of the families are trying to construct tents out of bad sheets, spare awnings and any other material that comes in their hands. The sun is about to set upon another night of horror for poor Charleston; heaven only knows what it may bring forth. Without any violent shock of earthquake at 10 o'clock, it is calculated that at least three-fourths of the city will have to be rebuilt entirely if the houses are to be inhabited.

The Latest Details.

CHARLESTON, S. C., September 1.—The competitors of the News and Courier decline to work tonight expecting fresh shocks of earthquake, and the paper cannot, therefore, issue tomorrow. The following article was prepared by the staff of the News and Courier, and is telegraphed almost in the writer's own words:

THE STORY OF THE DISASTER.

Necessarily the only description that can be given of the disaster which has befallen our city consists in the narration of the experiences and observations of an individual, and the subject being the same, and the experiences of all being nearly alike, the story by one careful observer may well stand for a hundred others, with slight variations. Probably the best idea that can be had of the character of the disturbances, therefore, may be obtained from a narration of the events and scenes of Tuesday night as they were presented to a single person. While engaged in his usual duties in the second story room of the News and Courier office at the time of the first shock, the writer's attention was vaguely attracted by a sound which seemed to come from the office below and which was supposed for a moment to be caused by the rapid rolling of a heavy body, such as a safe or a heavily laden truck, over the floor. Accompanying the sound was a peculiar tremor of the building, not more marked, however, than would be caused by the passage of a street car or drag along the street. For perhaps two or three seconds the occurrence excited no surprise or comment. Then by swift degrees, or perhaps all at once, it is difficult to say which, the sound deepened in volume, the tremor became more decided, the ear caught the rattle of window sashes, gas fixtures and other loose objects. The men in offices, with perhaps a simultaneous flash of recollections of the disturbance of the Friday before, glanced hurriedly at each other and sprang to their feet with startled questions and answers: "What's that?" "Earthquake?" and then all was

BEWILDERMENT AND CONFUSION.

Then the long roll deepened and spread until an awful roar, that seemed to pervade at once the troubled earth and the still air above and around. The tremor was now a rude, rapid quiver that agitated the whole lofty, strong walled building although they were being shaken by the hand of an immeasurable power with intent to tear its joints asunder and scatter its stones and bricks abroad as a tree casts its over-ripened fruit before the breath of the gale. There was no intermission in the vibration of the building, and the engine. From the first to the last it was continuous, jerking, only adding force at every moment, and as it approached and reached the

climax of its manifestations it seemed for a few terrible seconds that no work of human hands could survive the shocks. The doors were heaving under foot, the surrounding walls and partitions away to and fro, the crash of falling masses of stone and brick and mortar was heard overhead, and without the terrible roar filled the ears and seemed to fill the mind and heart, a singular perception, bewildering thought, and for a few panting breaths, or while you held your breath in dreadful anticipation of instantaneous death, you felt that life was already passing away for the end as the victim with his head on the block awaits the fall of the uplifted ax. It is not given to any man to look into the face of the destroyer and yet live, but it is little to say that persons of strong men who shared the experience above faintly described will carry with them the recollection of that supreme moment to their dying day.

NOTHING ESCAPED TO ESCAPE.

A sudden rush was simultaneously made to endeavor to attain the open air and flee to a place of safety, but before the door was reached all feeling together to the towering wall and stopped, feeling that hope was vain; that it was only a question of death within the building or without; to be killed by the sinking roof or crushed by the toppling walls. The horror slowly died away in seeming darkness. The earth was still, and the blessed relief of that stillness. But how ruefully the silence was broken! As we dashed down the stairway and out into the street, already on every side arose the shrieks, the cries of pain and the faint, far off, wailing of terrified women and children commingled with the hoarse shouts of excited men out in the street. The air was filled to the height of the houses with a whitish cloud of dry, stifling dust from the lime and mortar and shattered bricks and stones, falling upon the pavement and stone road way, had been reduced to dust. Through this cloud, dense as fog, the lights flickered dimly, so that you stumbled at every step on the piles of brick or became entangled in the lines of telegraph wires that crossed every direction from their broken supports. On every side were hurrying forms of men and women bareheaded, partially dressed, some almost nude, and many of whom were

CRAZED WITH FEAR AND EXCITEMENT.

Here a woman is supported, half fainting, in the arms of her husband, who vainly tries to comfort her while she carries her into the open space of the street corner, where present relief seems assured; there a woman lies on the pavement with upturned face and outstretched limbs, and the crowd passes her by for the time, not pausing to see whether she be alive or dead. A sudden light flash catches a window overlooking the street; it becomes momentarily brighter, and the cry of fire resounds from the multitude; a rush is made toward the spot; a man is seen doubled up and helpless against the wall, but at this moment somewhere out at sea, overhead, deep in the ground or heard again the low, ominous roll which is already too well known to be mistaken. It grows louder and nearer, like the growl of wild beast swiftly approaching his prey, and forgotten again in the frenzied wish for the open space where alone there is hope of safety, faint though it be. The tall buildings on either side of the street and the stars are red to the sky and the feet of ground between them. Their shattered cornices and coping, the tops of their crumbling walls seemed piled from both sides to the center of the street. It seems that a touch would send the shattered masses flying, standing down upon the people below who look upon them and shrink together as the tremor of the earthquake again passes under them and the mysterious reverberations swell and roll along like some infernal drum beat.

SUMMING THEM UP TO DIE.

and it passes away, and again is experienced the blessed sense of deliverance from impending calamity, which, it may well be believed, evokes a mute but earnest offering of mingled prayer and thanksgiving from every heart in the throng. Again, however, the street and the open airways that lead into it from either side, is heard that chorus of wailing and lamentation which, though it had not ceased, was scarcely noticed a moment before. It is a dreadful sound, the sound of helplessness, horror, strain, and agony, old and young, at once, and the feeble wailing—where all are so feeble, calling for help from their fellow creatures, and their voices in petition to heaven for mercy, where no human aid could avail. It is not a scene to be described by any mortal tongue or pen. It is not a scene to be forgotten, when once it has been witnessed, and when the witness has shored all its danger and fears all its agony.

THE FIRST SHOCK.

Occurred at 9:55 o'clock and was indicated this morning by the public clocks, the hands on all of which had stopped at that fatal hour, so many to mark the end of time for so many who had heard the preceding hour passed forth by St. Michael's tower, without a thought but of long and happy life. The second shock, which was but a faint and crisp echo of the first, was felt eight minutes later. As it passed away the writer started forward to find the reason of the shock, which had fallen from the sky. A little further on the roof of the portion of the Union Hall, a handsome building in the Grecian style, had crashed to the ground, carrying down part of the massive granite pillars with it. All the way up Meeting street, which in respect of its general direction and importance may be called the Broadway of Charleston, the roadway was piled with debris from the tops of the walls. In passing the Charleston Hotel, which to carry out the comparison above indicated occupies the position of Stewart's up-town store in New York, the third shock was felt about ten minutes after the second, and of course caused the greatest alarm in that neighborhood and elsewhere. At Marion Square (corresponding with Union Square, New York) a great crowd had collected, as even the edges of the wide spaces embraced in it could not be reached by the nearest buildings in the event of their fall. From this crowd, composed of men, women and children of both races, arose incessant calls and cries and lamentations, while over the motley, half dressed throng was shed the lurid light of the

conflagration which had broken out just beyond the square immediately after the first shock, and had now wholly enveloped several buildings in three other quarters of the town. At the same time similar large fires were observed under all headway, and the awful significance of the earthquake may be fully appreciated when it is said with these tremendous fires blazing up all at once around them and threatening the city with total destruction, the people whom you met on the streets or saw gathered together in groups in the open places evidently did not give them a thought. No one was checked the ruddy flames or the pillars of clouds rising high into the still night air. All were intent on bracing with strained senses for the dreaded recurrence of that horrible growl or groan of the power under the sea and under the land to give a thought to the new terror, though it had threatened his own home and many homes in the doomed city. The crowds poured from every direction to the square just described, as though it had been indeed a charmed circle and life depended on racing within its grassy bounds. Street cars, carriages, and other vehicles were ranged in lines on the streets surrounding the square, while homes stood as though on flag the ground in anxious inquiry. The colored people everywhere were loud and insistent in their declarations of alarm, in the singing of hymns and in fervent appeals for God's mercy, in which appeals God knows many a proud heart who heard the outcries in the night and in the hour of his weakness might devoutly and humbly join.

ANGER AND HUMILITY.

Danger broke all of us to the level of the lowliest. There were no distinctions of place or power, pride or caste in the assemblages that were gathered together in Charleston on Tuesday night. It was

A CURIOUS SPECTACLE.

to look back upon. It is a good one to look upon, and it is a good one to have instances of unselfish devotion, of kind and loving regard between master and servant, mistress and maid in the presence of a common ill and of threatened ruin that showed as nothing else could show how strong the ties of kindred and of white people and our black people together, and this lesson of the dread visitor we may hope, too, will never be forgotten. Arrived at his home the writer found the same scenes of destruction and wreck which marked nearly every house in the city. All the houses in the neighborhood had suffered seriously, and streets, yards and gardens were filled with the fallen chimneys and fragments of walls, while the walls that were left standing were rent asunder in many cases from top to bottom, and were badly shaken in every part. Women and children, roused from sleep or interrupted in their evening pursuits by the sound of the rain being effected about and around them, rushed out into the streets, and the children, crying and the men, whatever it might be, lay face down on the mat, and deposited in the roadway. No thought was given to a trace left behind in the effort to save the peculiar treasures of life itself, such as any home or property, or even in the eyes of all, the invalid women and their man alike. Until long after midnight the streets were filled with fugitives in sight of their homes. Through the long hours that followed were the cries, even of childhood, that were closed in sleep. Charleston is full of those who watched for the morning, and never in any city in any land did first gray shades that mark the approach of dawn appear so beautiful and so welcome as they appeared to the thousands of people who halted from this morning from the midst of the countless wrecked houses in our thrice seared, but still patient, still brave, still hopeful, still beautiful city by the sea.

WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

are running about in the open air for relief, and many of them are in the streets in pairs, including the boys, and many of the inhabitants are provided with berths on these boats. Fortunately the weather has been good, and the hardships are not as severe as they might have been. The situation is, however, becoming terrible. Cut off from communication with the rest of the world, afflicted and haunted with the prospect of immediate death—that is about the condition of this community. No trains have departed or arrived here in twenty-four hours. It is said that all the railway tracks are twisted into the shape of snakes.

CAPT. DAWSON'S EXPERIENCE.

The offices of the various quakers can be judged by the experience of Capt. Dawson, of the News and Courier, who lives in a massive brick residence in Ball street near Raleigh street. Capt. Dawson was in his room on the second story when the first shock occurred. The houses seemed literally to turn on their axes. The first shock was followed by a second and third, less severe than the first. The air was filled with cries and shrieks of women and children. From every side of that quiet neighborhood came the cry, "God, help us!" "God, save us!" "Oh, my God!" It was worse than the worst agony of war. When the first agony was over it was found that the ceiling of every room in the house was cracked, the big cistern was broken apart, the huge tank in the attic was pouring its flood of water into the bedrooms. In the parlors the statues had been wrenched from their bases and thrown to the floor, in the hall the massive lamp had actually been turned around. In front of the house was a large porch, with heavy pillars and solid marble steps. All this was so much as though it had been hit with a sledge hammer. And what was Capt. Dawson's experience was that of hundreds of others in Charleston. There were, in all, five shocks, diminishing in violence from the first.

WHAT A SCENE WAS THERE.

The sidewalks in the streets were lined with mothers, wives and daughters, with their protectors, awaiting in anxious expectation still another agony. The air was thick with horrid rumors, and the livid glare of the fire but heightened the general ruin. Among the casualties are the following: Mrs. Williams jumped from the second story of her residence at the corner of Wentworth and Meeting streets, injuring her spine badly; Mrs. E. Gaillet, colored, was struck by a brick, opposite the Pavilion Hotel, and her head was badly injured; her daughter was also badly hurt in the same way; Mrs. Robert Martin, wife of the shoe merchant on Market street near King, was badly hurt; M. J.

(Continued on Fourth Page.)

B. LOWENSTEIN & BROS.

WHOLESALE DRY GOODS!

HOSIERY, NOTIONS, Gents' Furnishing Goods

229-231-233 MAIN STREET.

TO THE TRADE.

Preparatory to building a New Storehouse upon our lot on the corner of Main and Jefferson Sts. we have moved our WHOLESALE stock to the spacious warehouses heretofore known as the Clay Building, 229, 231 and 233 Main street, where we will continue our WHOLESALE business until the new house is completed. We have now more space and better facilities for doing business than we had in the old store, and can assure our patrons and the trade generally that we are in a better position to serve them than ever.

Our stocks are much larger than any we have ever had, and nearly all purchased before the late advances were made in prices—an advantage that we have determined to at least share with our customers. Remember, we guarantee the price of every article we sell to be as low as it can be bought in the United States.

B. Lowenstein & Bros.

GILBERT RAINE, GENERAL INSURANCE AGENT.

OFFICE—Room 1 (new) Cotton Exchange Building, Telephone 694.

REPRESENTING:

ASSETS.	LIABILITIES.
North British and Mercantile (London) £35,000,000	Equitable of Nashville \$197,000
Western Assurance Co. (New York) 1,142,000	Phoenix of Brooklyn (Mass.) 4,010,000
Union of California 1,135,000	

American Surety Company, Making Bonds of Suretyship.

All classes of property insured. Special Attention given to Insuring Country Stores.

New York Life Insurance Co.

ASSETS \$66,800,000.

NOTE AND STOCK BROKER.

J. H. S. TOOF, E. L. MCGOWAN, J. S. MCGOWAN, W. G. PATTERSON.

Toof, McGowan & Co.

Wholesale Grocers and Cotton Factors.

And Dealers in Lard and Railroad Supplies.

No. 274 Front Street, Memphis, Tennessee.

Mercantile Bank of Memphis,

Capital, \$200,000. Surplus, \$25,000.

J. R. GODWIN, Pres't. J. M. GOODBAK, Vice-Pres't. C. H. RAINE, Cashier.

Board of Directors.

T. B. TURLEY.	J. M. GOODBAK.	J. R. GODWIN.
W. B. BRUCE.	M. J. DAVIS.	W. P. DUNAVAN.
Y. M. NELSON.	T. B. RIMS.	H. C. BLIVEN.
W. M. SMITH.	CHARLES KENEY.	H. C. BLIVEN.
W. WILKINSON.	R. P. COOPER.	A. W. NEWSON.
JOHN ARMISTEAD.	C. B. BRYAN.	

Not a Depository of the State of Tennessee. Transacts a General Banking Business and gives Special Attention to Collections.

DISSOLUTION NOTICE.

BY MUTUAL CONSENT, the firm of Alston, Crowell & Co. is this day dissolved, F. W. Crowell retiring. The remaining partners, F. W. Alston and H. H. Maury, will continue the business at the old stand, corner Front and Union streets, arranging all liabilities and collecting all outstanding accounts.

Memphis, Tenn., September 1, 1886.

as on retiring as above, I bespeak for my successors a continuation of the patronage heretofore extended the old firm.

NEW FIRM.

ALSTON & MAURY

LEMMON & GALE

WHOLESALE

Dry Goods, Notions, Hosiery

—AND—

GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING GOODS,

Nos. 326 and 328 Main St., Memphis, Tenn.

OUR STOCK OF FALL AND WINTER GOODS IS LARGER AND MORE COMPLETE THAN EVER BEFORE, and our prices will compare with those of any house in the United States. We are Agents for

Tennessee Manufacturing Co.'s Plaids, Drills, Sheetings, Shirtings, Etc.

LEMMON & GALE.

J. R. GODWIN & CO.

Cotton Factors

And Commission Merchants,

Nos. 34 and 36 Madison Street, Memphis.

ALABAMA SPLIT COAL

NONE BETTER—BY THE BARREL OR CAR—OR IN

rates to those who desire to try it. Special rates to all points on Railroad.

Shipping out of Memphis.

P. M. PATTERSON & CO.

Physician, Surgeon and Accoucher.

RESIDENCE AND OFFICE.

343 Main Street, Near Union.

Telephone No. 85.